

# Columbia Missourian

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Good Morning! It's Friday, February 16, 1979

2 Sections — 18 Pages — 15 Cents

## Iran

### Americans await airlift

From our wire services

TEHRAN, Iran — The U.S. Embassy, conceding it no longer could protect Americans in violence-torn Iran, Thursday warned more than 8,000 Americans still in the country to prepare for airlift evacuation with only one suitcase each.

The State Department said the first 800 Americans will be flown out of Tehran Saturday on two chartered jumbo jets and the United States believes the Iranian government can provide a safe exit as promised.

Aides of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, who before his seizure of power four days ago had demanded that all American "foreign devils"

leave Iran, reacted with anger to the U.S. evacuation order and refused to help with the planned exodus.

Widespread looting broke out in Tehran for the first time in the 15 months of street violence which culminated in the flight of Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi from the nation and the victory Sunday of followers of Khomeini over the shah's last government.

Unidentified gunmen ransacked shops along Pahlavi Avenue, Tehran's Fifth Avenue, stripping stores of everything from bathroom fittings to sporting goods.

The night of looting coincided with an outbreak of hit-and-run attacks on mosques, radio stations, power plants

and other government installations by left-wing gunmen. Those attacks, which began with the assault and seizure of the U.S. Embassy Wednesday, continued Thursday.

In other developments:

U.S. officials filed protests over Soviet reports that suggested the seizure of the U.S. embassy was carried out by CIA-backed agents of the disbanded SAVAK secret police. A Tass dispatch printed in all Soviet newspapers Thursday said that agents of the CIA had staged the attack to provide an excuse for American military intervention there.

Three top officials of the new Islamic regime accused leftist guerrillas of mounting attacks on

government installations and foreign embassies in Tehran with the express purpose of undermining the provisional government of Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan.

In an interview with the New York Times Thursday, Deputy Prime Minister Hashem Sabaghian blamed such attacks on the People's Fedayeen, a Marxist urban guerrilla group that feels the revolutionary government is not radical enough.

The Palestine Liberation Organization sent a team of doctors to Tehran to help care for the wounded and to prepare for a visit by PLO chief Yasser Arafat to establish relations with Iran.

### Woman stumbles out of nightmare

TEHRAN, Iran (UPI) — When she stumbled out of prison on Sunday in history's largest recorded jailbreak, Mary Ellen Schneider thought her long nightmare finally was over. In fact, it was only just beginning.

For the past 20 months, Ms. Schneider's reality has been more frightening than most nightmares.

It began in May 1977 when a workman fell off the roof of the apartment building where Ms. Schneider, then a professor of linguistics at Tehran University, was living.

Ms. Schneider, 43, Bethesda, Md., was arrested and carted off to prison, apparently for routine questioning in

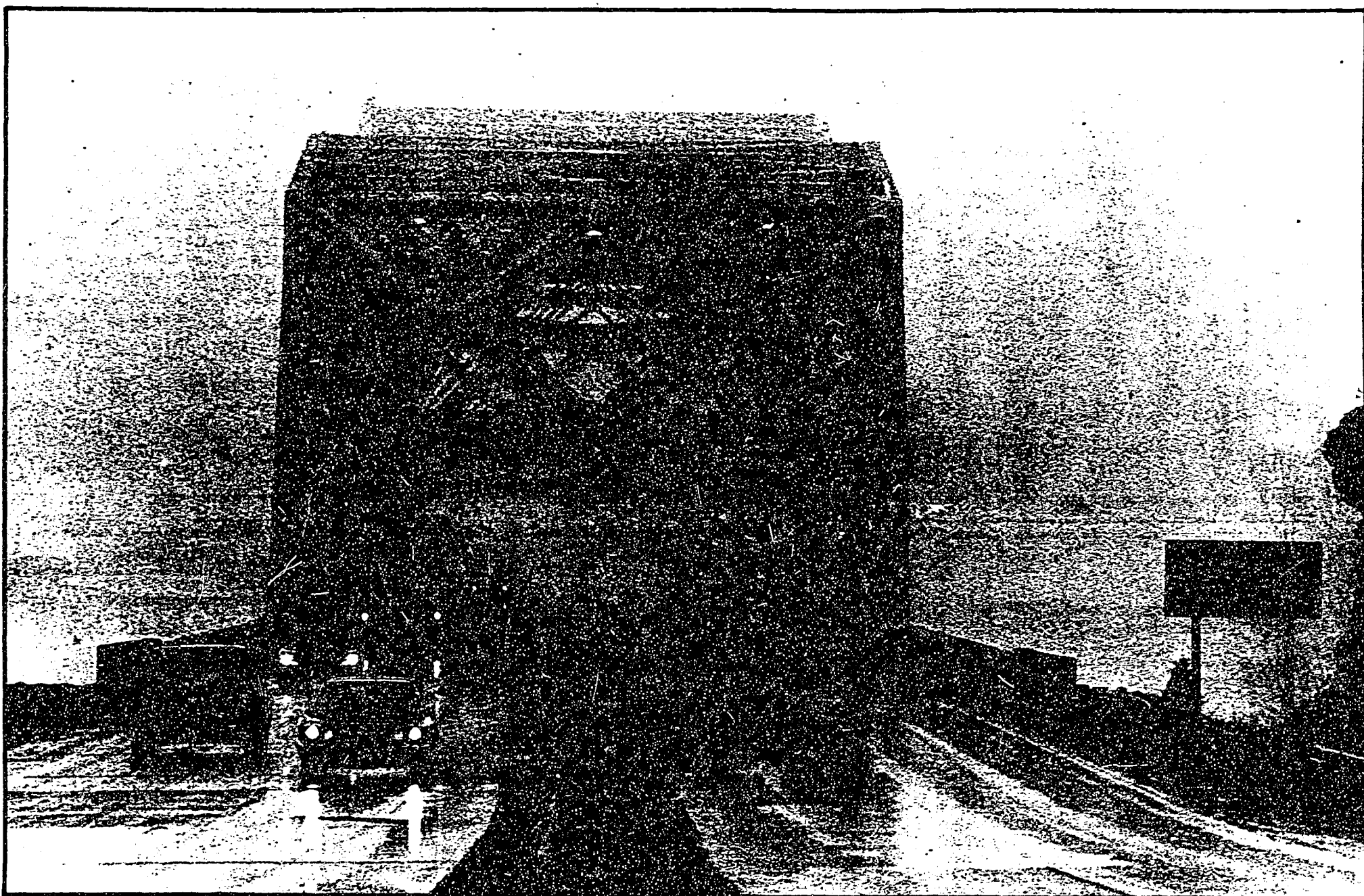
connection with the case.

But once they had confined her to a cell crammed with some 30 other women — many of them convicted murderers — officials apparently forgot about Ms. Schneider's case.

Charges were not filed; no allegations even hinted. Mary Ellen Schneider was just in jail and she had very little hope of getting out. Until Sunday.

On Sunday, the Iranian revolution swept down the prison gates and the 11,000 inmates of Tehran's central jail were freed by the exultant supporters of the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Out came revolutionaries and (See AMERICAN, Page 12A)



Heavy fog engulfs drivers crossing the Missouri River Bridge west of Columbia Thursday morning

Steve Buhman

### Ruling means M.U. to face higher coal bills

By Kathy Brady  
Missourian staff writer

University officials probably will have to spend \$1.5 million more for high-cost, high-quality coal in the next two years because Missouri air quality officials have left them no alternative.

Missouri Air Conservation Commission officials this week rejected a University proposal to burn a high- and low-sulfur coal mix that could have saved the school \$1.5 million in fuel costs. But the coal mix also would have doubled the amount of sulfur dioxide released at the University power plant.

Robert Schreiber, air pollution control specialist, said Columbia does not meet federal air quality standards now and "any worsening of that situation is not desirable."

University officials wanted to use a cheaper-grade fuel than the low-sulfur, low-ash Illinois coal because Illinois coal is expensive — \$46.54 a ton. The city power plant, using new anti-pollution chimneys and filters, burns high-sulfur, high-ash Missouri coal at roughly half the University's bid price.

Tom Hussey, University vice president for business affairs, had asked the commission if the University power plant could burn 80 percent Missouri coal mixed with 20 percent coal shipped from Illinois. The commission now requires the plant to burn Illinois coal entirely.

Because the University must continue to burn the high-cost coal, Hussey said, it is faced with a "real financial crunch." Energy costs have risen 12 percent in the past year, but the legislature may allow only an 8 percent increase in utility funding in the 1979-80 University budget.

Schreiber said burning the mix would raise sulfur dioxide emissions above those allowed under federal Environmental Protection Agency guidelines. The power plant currently violates federal dust emission standards.

The commission had to consider the federal guidelines, not the University's financial position, he said.

"It's not like the situation just popped up," Schreiber said. "The University should have taken care of the situation five (See ANTI-POLLUTION, Page 10A)

### Insight Nonpartisan system has city backing

When you vote for your councilman April 3, his party affiliation will not be on the ballot — and Columbia politicians want to keep it that way.

Nonpartisan elections, those in which names but not party affiliations of candidates are listed on the ballot, first appeared in the United States in the early 1900s. They gained popularity in the good-government reform movements of the 1920s and 1930s. Today, about two-thirds of America's cities use the nonpartisan ballot to elect local officials.

Columbia's elections became nonpartisan when the city charter was approved in 1949. "I'm much in favor of

This report on nonpartisan city government elections was written by Nadine Merritt, Jeanne Schwimke, Chuck Springston and Jeanne Sweet of the Columbia Missourian's special reporting team on government and politics.

it," Mayor Les Proctor says of the system. "It's worked well for us."

Reformers felt nonpartisanship would take the "politics" out of local government. Fifth Ward Councilman Ed Vaughan says, "The issues of the city do not have much relevance to party politics. Party politics might get in the way of efficiency."

St. Joseph, with a population of 78,000, is the Missouri city closest in size to Columbia that has partisan

(See LOCAL, Page 12A)

### House passes state reassessment plan

From our wire services

JEFFERSON CITY — A plan for statewide property reassessment coupled with a rollback in tax rates, plus a possible 10 percent state-financed cut in local property taxes, cleared the Missouri House Thursday and was sent to the Senate.

"It gives relief to the taxpayers in the area where they have been complaining — the property tax," said Rep. Wayne Goode, D-Normandy.

The House approved its Democratic leadership's priority property tax program 97-62. Boone County Republicans Larry Mead and Harold Reich supported the bill and Howard County Democrat W.A. Markland voted

against it.

Approval of the bill came as members of the State Tax Commission were drafting an order to all county property assessors requiring them immediately to bring assessments in their areas up to the legal level of one-third of true value. Counties will be asked to submit plans by July 2, but no deadline will be set for the actual reassessment, Tax Commissioner Don G. Williams said.

House Speaker Kenneth Rothman, who said he was told that order would be issued by next week, contended the Tax Commission's action made it even more necessary for the legislature to endorse the House plan.

But the comprehensive House program is expected to face stiff op-

position in the Senate, which already has forwarded to the House a bill that would only roll back tax rates after any reassessment to insure taxing districts do not reap windfall tax revenues.

Senate President Pro Tem Norman Merrell said his chamber is "pretty well committed" to the tax rollback bill only and that the other portions of the House program should be considered individually.

The House plan calls for statewide reassessment by 1983 coupled with a tax rate rollback provision similar to the Senate's. But it also calls for the state to funnel \$105 million a year to local school districts that further reduce their tax rates after reassessment and rollback occur.

That provision is intended to ease the impact of reassessment by cutting at least 10 percent school tax levies. Because assessments now are so inequitable within taxing jurisdictions, equalizing them at the required rate would increase the overall tax burden for about half the state's property owners even after tax rates initially are rolled back, experts say.

Merrell agreed with House leaders that there is no doubt statewide reassessment will occur in light of the recent state Supreme Court decisions mandating an end to the inequities in the system. But Merrell said he believed local tax assessors were making headway in resolving inequities and would be able to further improve

the picture in the future at a cost much lower than would be required to meet a 1983 deadline.

In other action, the House also finally approved and sent to the Senate two other Democratic leadership priorities — state regulation of major new medical facilities and services and an overhaul of the state's merit personnel system.

The House also gave final approval to a proposed constitutional amendment for issuance of another \$200 million in bonds to help finance sewage treatment projects statewide. That measure now goes to the Senate, and if approved there, will be submitted for voter approval.

### Panel of visiting doctors offers advice and hope to Ellis Fischel

By J. Russell King  
Missourian staff writer

Physicians from around the nation, visiting Ellis Fischel State Cancer Hospital to advise the administration on radiation therapy care, seem hopeful about the hospital's future.

And the cancer hospital's administrator, Robert E. Lee, is counting on their help to strengthen a department that has been the center of some controversy.

"These guys are all superstars in their field, and they're coming in from the outside, looking with outside eyes," Lee said Thursday after the seven-man committee's first day of discussions on the hospital's radiation therapy department.

Dr. Chahin M. Chahbazian, former

director of the Penrose Cancer Hospital in Colorado Springs, Colo., and now a professor of radiology at the University of California at Irvine, praised the Ellis Fischel Hospital staff.

"There are many dedicated people here, capable people," he said. "And we are hopeful that things can be better yet."

The advisory panel, visiting Columbia through Saturday, is headed by Dr. Juan A. del Regato, professor of radiology at the University of South Florida. He was director of radiation therapy at Ellis Fischel from 1943 to 1948.

Del Regato is a trustee of the American Board of Radiology and has been president of the American Society of Therapeutic Radiologists, the Inter-

American College of Radiology and the Federation of Clinical Oncologic Societies.

Other committee members are Dr. Carl Bogardus of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center; Dr. William T. Moss of the University of Oregon Medical School; Dr. Jose M. Sala of the Cancer Research and Treatment Center in Albuquerque, N.M., and Drs. J. Frank Wilson and James D. Cox, both of the Medical College of Wisconsin.

"There are no problems here that people and money can't cure," Bogardus said. He complained that state health institutions often face the problem of insufficient funding, though government is willing to spend money

(See PANEL, Page 10A)

#### Inside today

##### Carter in Mexico

President Carter, replying that Mexico can also be a "difficult" neighbor, told President Jose Lopez Portillo that it was time for both nations to bury past differences and move on to better relations. Details on Page 12A.

##### Grammy winners

The Bee Gees' driving disco songs won four Grammys but lost out to Billy Joel and "Just the Way You Are" for the coveted awards of record and song of the year in the Grammys. See more on the winners on Page 10A.

#### In town today

6 p.m. Basketball, Notre Dame of Quincy, Ill., at Hickman High School.

6 p.m. Basketball, Chillicothe at Rock Bridge High School.

7:30 p.m. "The Mousetrap," the University Main Stage Theater.

8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Dave Brubeck, jazz concert, Old Auditorium, Stephens College.

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